

**Working Collectively
to
Build a Strong Blue Pacific**

**CROP Heads Annual Report
to the
Pacific Islands Forum Leaders
September 2018**





About CROP

The Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) functions as a coordination mechanism to provide high-level policy advice and support to Pacific island countries and territories in the formulation of policy at national, regional and international levels. It also provides a forum to enable CROP executive heads to collectively respond to regional priorities identified by Forum Leaders through the public policy process of the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism*, and to ensure effective follow-up, implementation and reporting on progress.

CROP coordinates its policy and technical expertise and resources to support member countries at international conferences and negotiations; in reporting on international commitments; in crisis situations in the region; and in implementing the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* and other regional frameworks for national and regional outcomes and impacts.

CROP membership consists of the following Pacific regional inter-governmental organisations: Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO); Pacific Community (SPC); Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA); Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP); Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS); Pacific Power Association (PPA); Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO); and The University of the South Pacific (USP). The Secretary General of PIF is the Chair of the CROP.

Foreword



The establishment of an overarching committee for regional organisations in the Pacific was first endorsed by Forum Leaders in 1988.¹

At the inaugural meeting the following year, Adi Finau Tabakauoro, Fiji's then Minister for Women's Affairs, opened the meeting by emphasising the importance of a strength in unity between regional organisations: "Collaborate and coordinate your activities so that resources are developed properly and utilised to maximise the benefits for the peoples of the region. It is imperative that through this Committee this is achieved."²

There is no doubt that the region we live in today has significantly evolved from what it was when CROP was first established almost 30 years ago. However, the purpose of the CROP is as important as ever – coordinating policy advice and providing technical expertise, assistance and resources to support countries in building a peaceful, prosperous and inclusive region.

In recent years, we have seen a renewed sense of Pacific collective action, driven by the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* and the *Blue Pacific* narrative, which help us to understand and project the strategic value of our region. This has provided renewed impetus for the CROP to act together to achieve the vision and objectives of the Framework.

Over the course of 2018, the CROP has been working to deliver on Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' priorities, including action on climate change, fisheries, ocean management, and security, while at the same time working to strengthen CROP cohesion and coordination. This report provides Leaders with a snapshot of CROP's progress over the past year, as a basis for discussions at the annual dialogue between Leaders and CROP Heads on 4 September 2018.

While we have taken positive steps to strengthen collective action by CROP this past year, there is always room to develop this further. This will remain a key priority for CROP agencies, to help ensure that the next 30 years truly delivers for our *Blue Pacific* continent.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Meg Taylor".

Meg Taylor, DBE
Chair of CROP

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

PIFS supports the 18 members of the Pacific Islands Forum to work together through deeper forms of regionalism in support of sustainable development, economic growth, good governance and security. Its focus is innovative, game changing initiatives for regional action.

PIFS promotes an inclusive regional public policy approach to arrive at proposals for Leaders to consider and endorse. Its role is policy advice, coordination and ensuring the effective implementation of Forum Leaders' decisions, leading to tangible improvements in the lives of the people of the Pacific.

¹ Initially known as the South Pacific Organisations' Coordinating Committee.

² Opening address by Adi Finau Tabakauoro, Minister for Women's Affairs, Suva, Fiji at the inaugural meeting of the South Pacific Organisations' Coordinating Committee, 1989.

CROP's Collective Expertise

Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO)

PASO is a regional organisation overseeing aviation safety and security in the Pacific Islands. Its goal is to provide specialist technical regulatory aviation oversight services to Members to enable a safe and secure aviation environment at a lower total cost than Members would have to meet if they funded regulatory aviation separately. Established in 2005, with a secretariat based in Port Vila, Vanuatu, PASO currently has 13 Pacific government members and four associate members. PASO delivers its services through a consultancy model underpinned by the standards and recommended practices as set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Pacific Community (SPC)

SPC is the principal and largest scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, owned and governed by 26 country and territory members. SPC works for the well-being of Pacific people through the effective and innovative application of science and knowledge, guided by a deep understanding of Pacific Island contexts and cultures. SPC's focus is on major cross-cutting issues, such as climate change, disaster risk management, food security, gender equality, human rights, non-communicable diseases and youth employment. Using a multi-sector approach in responding to members' development priorities, SPC draws upon skills and capabilities from around the region and internationally, and supports the empowerment of Pacific communities and sharing of expertise and skills between countries and territories.

Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)

FFA strengthens national capacity and regional solidarity so its 17 members can manage, control and develop their tuna fisheries now and in the future. Based in Honiara, Solomon Islands, the FFA was established to help countries sustainably manage their fishery resources that fall within their 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). FFA is an advisory body providing expertise, technical assistance and other support to its members who make sovereign decisions about their tuna resources and participate in regional decision making on tuna management through agencies such as the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Pacific Power Association (PPA)

PPA is an association of electricity utilities, organisations, and individuals who have an interest in the operations and development of the power industry in the Pacific Island Countries. The main objective of PPA is to create an environment of "co-operative partnership" with the private sector, funding institutions, and others with interest in the development of the power industry and to enhance the role of the power sector in the Pacific Island Countries. PPA is an inter-governmental regional organisation founded by the electricity utilities operating in the Pacific Islands Countries. Established in 1992 with a Secretariat based in Suva, Fiji, PPA currently has a membership of 25 electricity utilities operating in 22 Pacific Island Countries and 93 Allied Members world-wide with interest in the development of the power industry in the Pacific region.



General Manager
Andrew Valentine



Director General
Dr Colin Tukuitonga



Director General
James Movick



Executive Director
Andrew Daka

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

SPREP promotes co-operation in the Pacific region and provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. Based in Samoa, SPREP has 26 member governments including 21 Pacific island countries and territories. As outlined in the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026, climate change resilience is its principal concern and oceans is a cross cutting theme. Other priority areas include; island and ocean ecosystems; environmental monitoring and governance; and waste management and pollution control. SPREP is an accredited entity to the Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund and host of the JICA funded Pacific Climate Change Centre.



Director General
Kosi Latu

South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)

SPTO is the mandated organisation representing tourism in the Pacific Islands region. With 18 government members and 200 private members, SPTO works to improve air and sea access to the Pacific Islands, enhancing the 'South Pacific' brand and supporting the capacity of government and the private sector for sustainable tourism. Its key functions include strategic management, advocacy, communications, partnership development, governance and reporting.



CEO
Chris Cocker

The University of the South Pacific (USP)

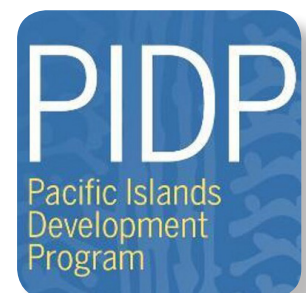
The USP is a multi-modal teaching and learning institution providing innovative, cost-effective, relevant and internationally recognised education and training. Jointly owned by the governments of 12 Pacific Island countries, USP has 14 campuses and 11 centres. In keeping with its Charter, USP provides all levels of education and training to enhance regional capacity in a wide range of disciplines including agriculture, computing studies, economics, laws, environment, sciences, climate change, accounting, management and teacher training. With the largest concentration of Pacific expertise, USP undertakes research in all aspects of the Pacific islands. It aims to significant lift its research profile by pursuing strategic partnerships and linkages.



Vice Chancellor & President
Professor Rajesh Chandra

Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP)

The East West Center's PIDP conducts a broad range of activities to enhance the quality of life in the Pacific islands. Based in Hawaii, the founding mission of PIDP is to assist Pacific Island Leaders to advance their collective efforts to achieve and sustain equitable social and economic development. Since 1980, PIDP has served as a forum through which Island Leaders discuss critical issues of development with interested countries, donors, nongovernmental organisations, and the private sector. PIDP was formed at the specific request of Pacific Island Leaders. It is the only East-West Center program whose activities have a defined geographic focus informed by both the area studies and disciplinary expertise of its staff and participants.



2018 Snapshot of Achievements

- Implementing Leaders' decisions** – Guided by the narrative of the *Blue Pacific*, CROP agencies worked collectively to deliver on Leaders' decisions with regards to climate change and resilience, fisheries, sustainable ocean management and conservation, the Agenda 2030 and S.A.M.O.A Pathway, regional security and regional governance and financing.
- Policy and technical advice** - CROP provided policy and technical advice to the Specialist Sub-Committee on Regionalism (SSCR) as well as supporting implementation of key regional policy instruments¹, and the development of new policies such as the *Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF)* and a proposed regional security declaration.
- International advocacy and engagement** - CROP worked collectively to support Member Countries engagement in international forums and negotiations including the 3rd Korea-Pacific Islands Foreign Ministers' Meeting; 8th Pacific Island Leader Meeting (PALM) with the Japanese Prime Minister; the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN *Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP23)*; and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).
- Coordination and collaboration** - CROP agencies worked to strengthen collaboration at all levels in 2018 including quarterly meeting of CROP Heads; agreement to annual meetings of CROP Heads and Governing Council Chairs; the establishment of a CROP Deputies Group to drive implementation of Heads' decisions; and working collectively through technical working groups.²

¹ This includes: Framework for Pacific Regionalism, Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development, Framework for Resilient Development, Framework for Pacific Oceanscape and Regional Fisheries Roadmap.

² CROP Working Groups include: Gender, Health & Population, Disability, Sustainable Development, Marine Sector, ICT, and Human Resources.

Introduction

CROP agencies have been working collectively to deliver on Forum Leaders' decisions and commitments, in support of the vision and objectives of the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism*. Overarching this collective approach has been the *Blue Pacific* narrative which has been used in policy papers, communications, and international engagements to promote the collective strengths and action of the Pacific region.

In 2017/2018, CROP coordination and collaboration has focused on the following Leaders' priorities and commitments:

- Climate change and resilience
- Fisheries
- Sustainable ocean management and conservation
- Sustainable Development Goals/SAMOA Pathway
- Regional security
- Regional governance and financing.¹

This Report provides a snapshot of progress and key achievements to deliver on these regional priorities.

¹ This is not a definitive list of CROP agencies' work to implement Leaders' priorities. Rather it focuses on priorities which particularly required CROP to combine resources and expertise and to collaborate to ensure effective delivery.

1.1 Climate change and resilience



Leaders' 2017 decision: Leaders supported the proposed Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) to ensure effective implementation of the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific* (FRDP). They called for the FRDP to be fully elaborated on to reflect the outcomes of the Paris Agreement and tasked the Forum Secretariat to coordinate, in consultation with Members, the work of CROP agencies in preparations leading up to the COP 23 in Bonn, Germany.

- **Driving implementation of the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific*** - The Pacific is taking a global lead in dealing with the policy issues of climate and disaster resilience through the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific*. To drive implementation of this Framework, the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) Taskforce was established in January 2018 with the collective support of SPREP, PIFS and SPC.

“The Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) Taskforce was established in January 2018.”

- The Taskforce is providing a multi-stakeholder approach to resilient development with 15 representatives across Pacific countries and territories, civil society, the private sector, regional organisations and development partners. At its inaugural meeting in May 2018, the Taskforce agreed to its scope and mandate, and to initial work focuses including developing criteria that enable initiatives to align with *Framework for Resilient Development* principles, and a communications and engagement strategy.



- At the same time, the Forum Secretariat has commenced work to map the *Framework for Resilient Development* against the Paris Agreement, to identify any policy or resourcing shortfalls. The outcomes of this mapping will be shared with CROP and other stakeholders, to agree on a way forward for updating the Framework as required.
- **Establishing a new Pacific Resilience Facility** - The Pacific Resilience Facility will reduce the socio-economic costs of disasters from climate change and natural hazard risk events on our countries, businesses and communities - through providing easy and timely access to finance that will allow existing public, private and community assets to be retrofitted and all, new development investments to be risk proofed. Following extensive consultations, the Facility was endorsed by Forum Economic Ministers in April 2018. A Technical Working Group has been progressing the technical design and operational aspects of the Facility, ready for Forum Leaders' consideration.
- **Advancing Pacific priorities at COP 23** - CROP agencies provided technical and policy advice to support Forum Members' advocacy and engagement in the lead up to, and at, COP 23. Reflections from the 2017 process identified the importance of earlier, collective planning and engagement by Members, as supported by CROP. In recent months, CROP agencies have been collaborating to support Forum Members' engagement at COP 24 including supporting the development of negotiating priorities and an engagement framework.

CROP agencies provided technical and policy advice to support Forum Members' advocacy and engagement in the lead up to, and during, COP 23.

1.2 Fisheries



Leaders' 2017 decision: Pacific Leaders have affirmed the central importance of increasing economic returns and ensuring the sustainable management of fisheries' in the region including reforming the management of longline fishery; increasing the value of employment and ensuring effective labour standards; facilitating investment and trade; and value chain participation. As part of this, Pacific Leaders recognised the need to strengthen support and resourcing for coastal fisheries management.

- **Increasing the sustainable economic returns of fisheries** - Working together as the Fisheries Taskforce, FFA, PIFS, SPC and PNAO have continued to progress implementation of the *Regional Fisheries Roadmap* and a work plan to increase the sustainable economic returns of fisheries.
- Initiatives progressed by FFA, together with other CROP agencies, include the reform of management of longline fisheries; regional advice, development of standards and training to increase the value of employment and ensure effective labour standards; support, advice and international negotiations to improve the investment environment and market access for fisheries; and advice, technical support and coordination to improve value chain participation. FFA and CROP agencies worked across the region as well as internationally to pursue fisheries' priorities, particularly through the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), with the European Union and with Japan through the Pacific Island Leaders Meeting (PALM 8). A joint approach to the 'tropical tuna measure' at the WCPFC has led to a process that improves high seas management while

A joint approach to the 'tropical tuna measure' at the WCPFC has led to a process that improves high seas management while securing the 'zone based management' approach within EEZs.



securing the 'zone based management' approach within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). An updated 'Tuna Political Mapping Report' - which will assess the policies and regulations of Forum Dialogue Partners - will be prepared in 2019, to further support international advocacy and engagement.

- While there has been steady progress in implementing the work plan of the Fisheries Taskforce and indicators such as employment and revenues continue to show positive trends overall, there is a general agreement amongst Taskforce members that transformative action is still required. The Fisheries Taskforce has prepared a mid-term report to Leaders for the 49th Pacific Islands Forum, to highlight progress and recommend focus areas to ensure the sustainable economic returns from the fisheries sector to the region is maximised by 2020.
- **Strengthening coastal fisheries management** - SPC has been coordinating action on coastal fisheries particularly through the Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries (RTMCF). This has included driving implementation of the *New Song for Coastal Fisheries strategy* as well as assisting with providing information and data for the annual Coastal Fisheries Report Card.

1.3 Sustainable ocean management



Leaders' 2017 decision: Leaders called for the commencement of UN negotiations for a new Implementing Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity on Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ); for a united regional effort that establishes and secures international recognition of the permanent protection and integrity of the maritime zones and sovereignty from the impacts of climate change and sea level rise; and committed to fast track the development of policies to ban the use of single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam packaging.

- **Strengthening ocean governance and management** - SPREP, SPC, PIFS and FFA – together with the now fully-resourced Office of the Ocean Commissioner (OPOC) - have been collaborating to deliver on Forum Leaders' decisions regarding strengthened ocean governance and sustainable ocean management and conservation as guided by the Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape. This included collective CROP support for Members' engagement at the UN Oceans Conference, to progress Pacific priorities and approaches to oceans management and conservation.
- SPC and FFA have been leading a Pacific Islands Regional Maritime Boundaries Project to assist Pacific Island countries to develop, promulgate and declare their respective maritime boundaries and likewise develop technical solutions towards the ratification of treaties between neighbours with overlapping marine zones. Regional cooperation has

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and conservation



already enabled the completion of treaties to settle 35 of the region's 48 shared maritime boundaries. Political will and leadership will be critical in pursuing settlement of the remaining boundaries.

- CROP agencies have been preparing to support Pacific Island countries for the treaty negotiations on BBNJ, set to commence in September 2018. This has included CROP-agency engagement with key stakeholders and related workshops in New York. BBNJ negotiations is a key priority for collective Forum advocacy and engagement in 2019, as supported by the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner and the new FOC Sub-Committee on Advocacy and Engagement, in collaboration with CROP as well as other relevant members of the Pacific Ocean Alliance.
- **Tackling marine pollution** - SPREP has been leading work to fast track the development of policies to ban the use of single-use plastic bags. This has included the development of the Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan which incorporates a model policy and legislation. It has also involved providing technical assistance to Pacific Island countries, as requested, and assistance to make high profile events such as APEC 'green' and 'plastic free'.
- **A stronger, collaborative approach** - CROP Heads have recognised the opportunity for a stronger, collaborative approach to ocean management and conservation, to further progress the *Framework for Pacific Oceanscape*, Sustainable Development Goal 14 on oceans and other relevant sector and thematic regional policies and plans. This will be progressed in 2019.

1.4 Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable



Leaders' 2017 decision: In endorsing the *Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development*, Leaders reinforced the centrality of the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* in contextualising global commitments under the 2030 Agenda and the S.A.M.O.A Pathway. Forum Leaders agreed that a full report on progress against the *Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED)* will be incorporated into the proposed quadrennial *Pacific Sustainable Development Report*.

- **Driving implementation of the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development** - PIFS, SPC, FFA, SPREP and USP have been collaborating to deliver on Leaders' sustainable development decisions including through the Sustainable Development Working Group and as guided by the *Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development*.
- **Supporting Voluntary National Reviews** - CROP agencies have supported Forum Island Countries to undertake Voluntary National Reviews on the Sustainable Development Goals. Eight Forum Island Countries have indicated interest to undertake Voluntary National Reviews in 2019 so CROP agencies, pending resources, will stand ready to provide technical input to support this process.
- **Finalising the first Pacific Sustainable Development Report** - CROP agencies have supported the drafting of the first *Pacific Sustainable Development Report* to provide a regional snapshot on progress and remaining challenges on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and S.A.M.O.A Pathway. SPC led the initial development of Pacific indicators and data collation, followed by engagement by all CROP agencies in report drafting. It is proposed to launch the report at the United Nations General Assembly in 2018, with the report then used as a basis for collective Forum advocacy and engagement to drive further Pacific progress on the 2030 Agenda and S.A.M.O.A Pathway.

Development



Implementing the *Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration*

CROP agencies worked collaboratively to deliver on the *Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration*, as a central part of the regional sustainable development agenda.

- SPC led the **delivery of the 13th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women and the 6th Meeting of Ministers for Women** in October 2017, bringing together decisions makers with Pacific governments, CROP agencies and key stakeholders to reflect on progress to date and identify measures to accelerate progress towards achieving gender equality in the region. The Pacific Platform for Action for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights 2018-2030 proposed strategic objectives to accelerate progress in implementing the PLGED.
- In March 2018, CROP agencies supported Forum Member countries in the negotiations of the agreed conclusions of the **62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women** – promoting the priorities of the PLGED - with a particular focus on the empowerment of rural women and girls. As called for by Forum Leaders, the CROP Gender Working Group developed briefings on gender equality issues for the region, to **integrate reporting on the Gender Equality Declaration into the first Pacific Sustainable Development Report**.
- CROP agencies are increasingly implementing **gender-responsive programmes** in order to make a difference to ensure women and girls benefit equally from development outcomes.

1.5 Regional Security



Leaders' 2017 decision: At the 48th Pacific Islands Forum, Leaders agreed to build on the Biketawa Declaration and other Forum security related declarations and tasked the Forum Secretariat to initiate consultations on developing a comprehensive 'Biketawa Plus' declaration. Leaders reaffirmed that the Forum Secretariat coordinate assistance by CROP agencies to the Republic of Marshall Islands in addressing the ongoing impacts of nuclear testing.

- **Developing a new regional security declaration -**

PIFS has coordinated the development of a new regional security declaration, with technical advice and input from CROP agencies through formal submissions, workshop participation and responding to a regional security policy paper. CROP collaboration has supported the identification of current and future security risks for the region, understandings of the existing security architecture and an expanded concept of regional security including human security, environmental security and building resilience to disasters and climate change. Subject to Leaders' endorsement of the new regional security declaration, CROP agencies will work together to provide necessary inputs into an action plan for implementation.

“CROP collaboration has supported the identification of current and future security risks for the region.”



- **Addressing the ongoing impacts of nuclear testing** - CROP agencies have also continued to work collectively in 2018 to address the ongoing impacts of nuclear testing in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), particularly through engagement with the RMI National Nuclear Commission (NNC). This has included coordinating political representations to the President of the United States of America and to mark RMI's National Nuclear Victims Day; support to the NNC to develop a communications and outreach strategy; sourcing of technical assistance for RMI to undertake cancer-mapping; and sharing of scientific reports with the NNC on radioactivity in RMI.

1.6 Regional governance and



Leaders' 2017 decisions: Leaders instructed CROP and its member agencies to ensure that meetings and their agendas are rationalised to take forward the Forum agenda in a synchronised way. Leaders directed the CROP Chair to work closely with the Heads of CROP agencies and their respective Governing Boards to develop an implementation plan for regional governance and financing decisions and to report to Leaders on progress.

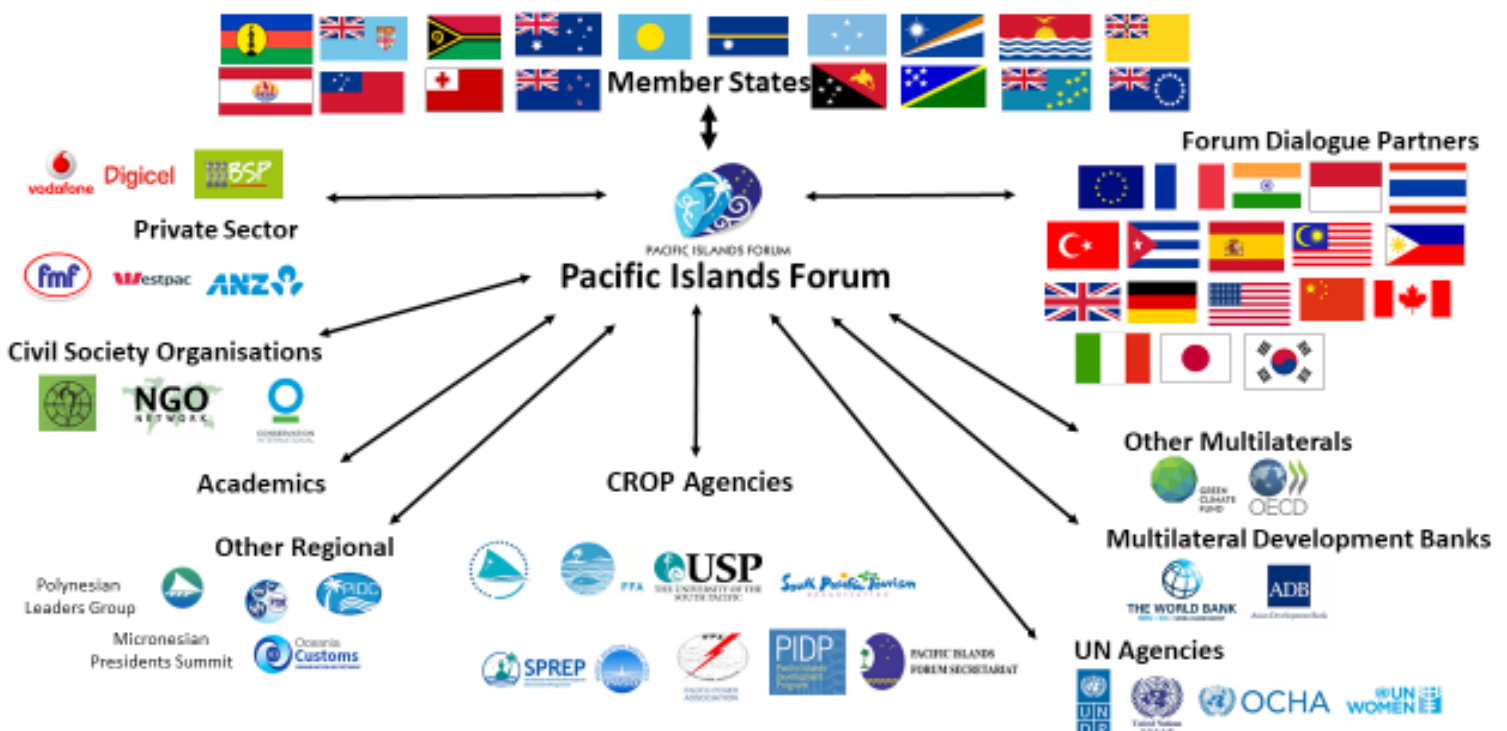
- **Strengthening regional governance and financing** - CROP agencies collaborated to prepare the *Analysis of Governance and Finance*, as considered by Leaders in 2017. In 2018, in response to Leaders' decisions, CROP agencies have supported PIFS to develop an implementation plan on regional governance and financing, focused on driving whole of government engagement, CROP cohesion and coordination, and development partner alignment.
- **CROP cohesion and coordination** - As part of this plan, CROP agencies have put in place new mechanisms to strengthen CROP cohesion and coordination. These include: holding an annual meeting of CROP Heads and Governing Council Chairs; a meeting of CROP Heads after the Leaders' meeting to develop an annual CROP strategic work agenda; establishment of CROP Deputies Group; and PIFS engagement in CROP Governing Council meetings. The new CROP Charter, to be considered by Forum Leaders at the 49th Pacific Islands Forum will further support CROP cohesion and coordination.

financing



- **Strengthening development partner alignment** - An inaugural Regional Development Partner Roundtable was also held in Palau in April 2018, with a particular focus on regional development cooperation towards the Pacific’s resilience agenda. A second Regional Development Partner Roundtable will be held at the 2019 FEMM to drive alignment of regional funding to Leaders’ priorities.

Forum Stakeholders



Conclusion

This year has seen strong progress in CROP collaboration and engagement to deliver on the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* and Forum Leaders' decisions. This has been achieved through an open and constructive dialogue at a CROP executive level as well as stronger engagement at an officials' level.

It is recognised that CROP collaboration and engagement is an area that requires a continued and considered focus, to ensure effective policy and technical advice and to deliver on regionalism priorities, while maximising and optimising the use of resources.

This will continue to be a focus in 2019 including stronger engagement between CROP Heads and Governing Council Chairs; the development of a CROP strategic work agenda to clearly capture the role, approaches and resources of CROP agencies to deliver on Leaders' decisions; and the implementation of a CROP communications plan.

CROP agencies welcome feedback and ideas from member countries on opportunities to further strengthen CROP cohesion and collaboration, to ensure the members' owned regional agencies work collectively in building a strong *Blue Pacific*.



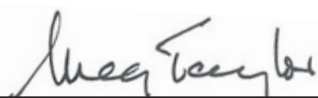
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From left to right: Dr Manu Tupou-Roosen (Director General designate, FFA); Mr Chris Cocker (CEO, SPTO); Mr Andrew Daka (Executive Director, PPA); Mr James Movick (Director General, FFA); Dame Meg Taylor (Secretary General, PIFS); Professor Rajesh Chandra (Vice Chancellor & President, USP); Mr Kosi Latu (Director General, SPREP); Mr Andrew Valentine (General Manager, PASO); Dr Colin Tukuitonga (Director General, SPC).

